

Strengthening Faith, Part 6: Giving

Mark 12:41-44 ESV

Pastor Brian Uyeda, July 18 & 19, 2026

Question: How does Jesus teach us to invest in God's Kingdom?

⁴¹ And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny. ⁴³ And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box. - Mark 12:41-43 ESV

1. We give focused on a _____, not a percent. (Mark 12:41-43)

Giving is Christ focused and Spirit prompted.

A) The person in need (almsgiving):

- We give in secret, knowing God sees us, and we focus on what has put in front of us. (Matthew 6:3-4; Galatians 2:10; 1 John 3:16-18)

B) Jesus and his Bride (the church):

- Giving is an act of worship & grace (2 Corinthians 8:1-9) = We focus on Jesus, his sacrifice, promises and teachings.
- Giving supports Kingdom work. (1 Corinthians 9:7-14; Galatians 6:6; 1 Timothy 5:17-18)

Live it out!

Q: If I have never given to the church, what are the reasons holding me back? Will I focus in prayer this week to talk to God about this area of my life? When I give, what is the focus of my heart, Jesus or something else?

⁴⁴ For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on." – Mark 12:44 ESV

2. We sacrificially give out of our _____, not our profit. (Mark 12:44)

Giving sacrificially is a heart issue, never a wealth issue.

² for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³ For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, - 2 Corinthians 8:2-3

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. – Matthew 5:3

⁹ For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. – 2 Corinthians 8:9

When we truly see the cross, our heart for giving changes.

Live it out!

Q: Do I see giving through the lens of the cross? What does sacrificial giving mean to me? Do I give out of my abundance or poverty?